

WORTHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

10, Bulkington Avenue,

Worthing.

July, 1945.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Annual Report 1944.

Acting on instructions from the Ministry of Health that reports should again be confined to essential and urgent matters which affected the public health during the year, especially any matters arising from or connected with the war, outbreaks of infectious disease, together with any exceptional administrative measures taken or recommended by the Medical Officer of Health, I beg to make the following observations.

General Statistics.

Area (Acres) 29,779

Resident Population (1944) estimated by the Registrar General, 22,520

Rateable Value (1944) £285,406.

Sum represented by ld. rate, £1,047.

No. of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to rate books, 8,792.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births -				
Legitimate ...	362	190	172	<u>Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 18.25
Illegitimate...	49	24	25	
Stillbirths ...	16	7	9	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 37.47
Deaths ...	375	186	189	<u>Death Rate</u> per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 16.65

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :-

From Sepsis - Nil

From other causes - 1

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :-

All Infants per 1,000 live births - 34

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births - 36

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births - 20

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 67

Deaths from Measles (all ages), Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), 1

Comparative Statistics, 1944.

		England & Wales.	West Sussex.		Worthing R.D.
			Urban	Rural	
Birth Rate	...	17.6	18.52	19.58	18.25
Death Rate	...	11.6	16.62	13.36	16.65
Infantile Death Rate	...	46	44	45	34
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
Death Rate	...	0.52	0.43	0.31	0.58
Cancer Death Rate	...	1.89	2.68	2.09	2.98
Zymotic Death Rate	...	-	0.14	0.04	0.04
Maternal Mortality Rate					
per 1,000 births	...	1.93	2.0	2.5	2.34

Infectious Disease.

During the year the following cases of infectious disease were notified :-

	No. Notified	No. of Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	48 (54 in 1943)	0
Diphtheria	2 (Nil " ")	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2 (Nil " ")	0
Pneumonia	19 (8 " ")	8
Tuberculosis	16 (32 " ")	9
Measles	196	0
Whooping Cough	108	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0
Erysipelas	6	0
Dysentery	23	0
Malaria	1	0
Ac.Poliomyelitis	2	0

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council. At the end of the year the position was as follows :

86.8% of children of school age had been immunised.
48.9% of children under school age had been immunised.

Two cases of Diphtheria were notified in the district during the year, one aged 19 and one aged 13. Neither of these cases had been immunised.

Scabies.

During the year 180 cases of Scabies were brought to the notice of the Health Department, namely :-

66 adults
71 school children
43 children under school age

Treatment was carried out as follows:

Tetmosol	...	147 cases
Tetmos cream	...	2 cases
Benzyl Benzoate Emulsion		29 cases

It will be noted that treatment has been principally by the use of Tetmosol, which has again proved undoubtedly to be the best preparation which has come to the notice of the Department. Only when Tetmosol has not been available have other preparations been used.

Clothes and bedding were disinfected by washing or hot ironing.

Evacuation.

At the end of the year there were 124 adult evacuees, 110 accompanied and 36 unaccompanied child evacuees

Housing.

No new houses were erected during the year.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	153
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	897

(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	...	24
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	303
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	1
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	23
2.		Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice :		
		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	...	103
3.		Action under Statutory Powers during the year :-		
	A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:		
		(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	4
		(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:		
		(a) By owners	...	1
		(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	1
	B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-		
		(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	...	9
		(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :		
		(a) By owners	...	3
		(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	1
	C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :		
		(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	1
		(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	4
	D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-		
		There were no proceedings under D.		

Examination of Milk Samples.

	Tuberculin Tested.	Accredited.	Pasteurised	Ordinary
Taken by County Council	37	201	10	0
Taken by other Local Authorities	2	0	1	0
Taken by own Sanitary Authority	6	17	2	17
Total number taken.	45	218	13	17

Methylene Blue Test:

No. complying with standard	35	183	5	4
No. not complying with standard	7	18	3	0

Coliform Test:

No. receiving no test	44	214	13	17
-----------------------	----	-----	----	----

Coliform Bacillus present:

1 Tube	0	0	0	0
2 Tubes	1	0	0	0
3 Tubes	0	0	0	0
No. satisfying test	0	4	0	0

Phosphatase test:

No. satisfying test	0	0	10	0
No. not satisfying test	0	0	2	0

Water.

There are three public water supplies in this area, namely, Brighton Corporation Supply, Worthing Corporation Supply and Littlehampton U.D.C. Supply, and three private supplies, namely Arundel Estate Supply, Kingston Estate Supply and Rustington Sea Estate Supply. Ten of the parishes in the district have public water supply and the remaining seven parishes have piped supplies to a varying extent from private sources.

During the year 18 samples of water were sent for bacteriological examination as follows:

Raw Water

Kingston Estate Supply	3 samples
Rustington Sea Estate Supply	4 samples

Water after treatment

Brighton Corporation Supply	2 samples
Worthing Corporation Supply	5 samples
Littlehampton U.D.C. Supply	1 sample
Arundel Estate Supply	3 samples

All the samples proved satisfactory.

No chemical analyses were made.

The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

All houses obtaining water from a piped supply are served direct. The proportion of dwelling houses supplied is 79% and the proportion of population supplied is 78%

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

(1) Council Houses :-

(a) Found to be infested	1
(b) Disinfested	1

(2) Other Houses:-

(a) Found to be infested	7
(b) Disinfested	6

Where toxic gases are used, the work of fumigation is carried out by the staff of the firm of Fumigators employed, but if the method used

is fumigation by use of insecticides or by gases other than toxic gases, the work of disinfection is carried out by the Council.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

A Rodent Operator was appointed in April 1944 and, with one change, has worked full time throughout the year.

In addition to dealing with complaints from the public, which have been very numerous as a result of the publicity given to rat infestation, work has been continuously carried out at the Council's Refuse Tips and Depots.

The methods used in dealing with all infestation have been in accordance with the new technique recommended by the Ministry of Food Technical Staffs and have been very successful.

Number of inspections made	1458
Complaints made by the Public	86
Infestations found as a result of above	84
Infestations found by the Public Health Department	93
Total number of premises where nuisances found	177
Premises where nuisance remedied	189
Premises where work in progress at end of year (Disinfestations at Refuse Tips, Salvage Depots and Works Departments, etc., which are carried out as a matter of routine, are not included in the above figures).	14
Total number of rats found dead	1348
Total number of rats estimated poisoned	14549
Total number of mice trapped or otherwise destroyed	3126

Sanitary Inspection.

I have had a complete report from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Oates, as in former years, but as this is not required I do not think it necessary to amplify any further beyond giving the following summary :-

Total number of inspections made for all purposes	7271
Total number of notices served:	Informal 658
	Statutory 28
Total number of summonses issued	Nil
Complaints investigated	214

Records.

All records, including statistics supplied by the Registrar General, are being carefully preserved in order that after the termination of the war a report can be made dealing more fully with the period from the beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year, so that annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

LADIES AND
I am, ^AGentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. H. WILSHAW

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Worthing Rural District Council.

